



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **District Man Gets 33-Year Sentence In Killing of Government Witness - Victim Provided Information About Defendant's Brother -**

WASHINGTON - A 20-year-old District of Columbia man, John Foreman, also known as "Baby J," was sentenced today to 33 years of incarceration for killing a government witness in a case against his brother, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Foreman was convicted in May 2010 by a jury in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia of first degree murder while armed with aggravating circumstances and related weapons offenses in the October 2008 slaying of 19-year-old Arthur Gale. He was sentenced by the Honorable Gerald I. Fisher, who presided over the trial.

According to the government's evidence, Foreman and Gale were friends who spent time in the Hobart Street NW area. Gale and the defendant's brother, Maurice Foreman, had been arrested after a shoot-out in Charles County, Maryland, on July 26, 2008. That same evening, Gale and others told authorities that Maurice Foreman was in possession of a firearm.

Following that incident, Maurice Foreman remained held and was visited by his brother, the defendant, at the Charles County Detention Center. John Foreman then began stating that he believed Gale to be the main witness against his brother.

On the night of October 17, 2008, Foreman, Gale, and two others were in the area of the 700 block of Columbia Road NW, at the Bruce Monroe Elementary School playground, when Gale and another individual began firing at a vehicle in the 700 block of Columbia Road NW. The four then walked to an alley leading to Irving Street. In the alley, Foreman shot Gale in the back and then proceeded to shoot him, as Gale was on the ground, multiple times in the head.

Gale died within minutes. Foreman fled the area but was arrested weeks later.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Ronald Machen commended the Metropolitan Police Department's Violent Crimes Branch. He also commended MPD Detectives Robert Cephas, Eric Fenton, Joshua Branson, Anthony D. Greene, James Wilson, Gus Giannakoulis, Norma Horne, and Thomas Webb. He expressed appreciation to Officers Thomas Ellingsworth, Dereck Phillip, Derrick Ferguson, Jonathan Amigo, and Timothy Ford. He also thanked Kevin Jeter, Ralph Nitz, Ridley Durham, Tony Nwani, J.D. Smith, Kemper Agee, David Murray, and Daniel Barrett of the Firearms Section. U.S. Attorney Machen also applauded the work of paralegal Fern Rehederick, and litigation services specialist Thomas Royal. Lastly, he thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robert Feitel, who investigated the case with the grand jury, Jeff Pearlman, who investigated, indicted, and tried the case, and Sean Lewis, who co-tried the case.

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